



## Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

*Founded 1856 by Saint Peter Julian Eymard*

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POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Province of Saint Ann  
Office of the Provincial

February 27, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman  
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman  
Commissioners Nanci Langley and Mark Acton  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach seven percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year. Thus, if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to promote the vitality of the communities of faith we serve across the United States, providing essential religious services to them and working to respond to the needs of our neighbors of all races, ethnicities, and religious affiliations, or none. Here at our Cleveland headquarters, for example, we serve the homeless who live on city streets and under bridges and overpasses, as well as the needy elderly in nearby senior residences who survive on fixed incomes, bringing hot meals and compassion to them.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have a deleterious effect on our mission and on the people we serve. Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

*Anthony Schueller, SSS*

Very Reverend Anthony Schueller, SSS  
Provincial Superior  
Saint Ann's Shrine and Development Office

